

WAGING WAR ON RATS

Professional Exterminators Employed in This City.

Old Harry Jennings Accumulated a Fortune of \$35,000.

Some Devices to Exterminate Arful Rodents and Roaches.

Rat-catching is one of the peculiar employments seldom found outside of a great metropolis. New York has three or four establishments which employ perhaps a score of men in this queer work.

One of them boasts that it was established in 1858. "The original Harry Jennings," who established it, was famous as a rat-catcher, and his memory is kept green in a certain circle of admirers.

He died July 5, 1891, at the age of sixty-four years. Jennings was an Englishman, but lived in Broome street, this city, more than half of his life. He amassed a fortune of \$35,000 in the rat-catching business.

Reliance and experience has provided the rat-catcher with devices for overcoming all sorts of difficulties. Jennings invented a trap to catch old rats that used a knot-hole in the middle of the floor. This trap was an artificial knot-hole which would directly over the real one. It had an attachment which caught Mr. Rat in a grip of steel the minute he stuck his nose above the floor level. Then there are rat traps with snappers like those of shears, and long, slender snappers with like-like faces, to thrust into holes and "pinch" rodents who persist in staying in holes.

Rats have great acuteness as well as alertness. In order the floor of the rat-catcher's factory of four bunnies of bread-cakes and other eatables, the remnants of the lunches of the employees for several months.

Rats are caught from their runs by the use of cracked corn, sweetened, or bits of bacon or pork.

Rats are not always a dead captive, though, even when they are caught in a trap. They will twist and wriggle till they have sacrificed a leg or their tail to get away.

The tail of one aged rat, left in a trap by its owner, shows that the tail was made up of ninety-one strands of white hair, which, when dry, had the appearance of a moustache.

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HARRY JENNINGS (Original Rat-Catcher).

But Jennings belonged to another generation. In his early days rat-catching was done by hand. The rat exterminator went into the haunts of the rats and literally caught them and destroyed them with his hands. It took nimbleness and dexterity.

After a time the ferret and the rat-trapper came. The rat-catcher's allies and rat-catcher became a rare sport.

When New York became a great city, and the buildings began to rear their heads among the clouds, and to plant their feet thirty or forty feet under ground, then rat-catcher developed into a trade and by the introduction of traps, poisons and the like, it became very prosaic indeed.

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FERNWALT REMANDED.

He May Have to Answer for Horse Stealing in Jersey City.

The suspicion that young Louis Fernwalt is a professional horse thief has been strengthened by information sent to Supt. Smith, of Jersey City, police, that Fernwalt's description is that of a man who is wanted for stealing a horse and buggy from a liveryman in Newark in August, and horses and wagons from liverymen in Orange during the summer.

Deputy Sheriff Shute, of Westchester County, made a complaint in Justice McDonnell's court to-day against Fernwalt for stealing from Frank Jarvis, in New Rochelle, the survey, horse and harness which Detective German Catholics will participate.

GERMAN CATHOLIC DAY.

Great Throng Attend the Festival in Newark.

(Special to the Evening World.) Newark, Sept. 24.—This city is crowded to-day with thousands from all over New Jersey and neighboring States, gathered to celebrate "German Catholic Day," to which festival today and to-morrow will be devoted. Every train is bringing delegates, who are immediately in charge of the various assigned groups, and give appropriate badges. Excursion trains have been run for the occasion from St. Louis and Chicago.

CATHOLIC RECTORS SHIFTED.

Important Parish Changes Ordered by Bishop McDonnell.

Bishop McDonnell, of Brooklyn, has appointed Rev. Father John J. Gorman, of St. Michael's Church, to the rectory of St. Peter's, and Rev. Nicholas Doran, of Holy Trinity, to the church of the Assumption.

These are irrevocable reassignments. Father Gorman, of Holy Trinity, and Father Kipatrick, of the Assumption, have been assigned to the rectory of St. Michael's.

Rev. W. J. Hill, of St. Paul's, is likely to be named to the Vicar Generalship.

WAS THE BOY KIDNAPED?

Mrs. Roubelle Believes Her Husband Took Away Her Child.

Mrs. Kate Roubelle, of 13 George street, Williamsburg, called at the Thirtieth Precinct station-house this morning and reported that her ten-year-old boy Joseph had been kidnapped.

Until some weeks ago she and the boy lived with her husband at 371 Troutman street. The father and mother quarrelled and separated, he staying at 371 Troutman street and she removing to 13 George street.

It was on the morning of the 12th inst. that Mrs. Roubelle, while playing outside of her mother's home in the dusk last evening, saw her child in the hands of a man. She believed the child was now in the father's possession.

Arrested for Jersey Officers.

Antonio Delacorte, Alleged to be the accomplice of Simon LaSalle in swindling Luigi Biondi, of 307 Fourth street, Jersey City, of \$1,500 by pretending to exchange United States money for Italian currency, has been arrested in this city and was today committed to the county jail, to await removal to Italy.

Killed by a Locomotive.

Tramway John Gorman, of Brooklyn, was struck by a Pennsylvania Railroad locomotive, near the Hackensack River, at 7 o'clock this morning, and was instantly killed. His body was found by the body of the locomotive and the county physician's report was that he died of a heart attack.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.

When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.

When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.

When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

We do not do all the foraging for food.

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"FLY COPS" TURNED DOWN.

Byrnes Sees No Exuse for So Many Special Duty Men.

Sinecures Lost by 125, Who Don the Uniform Again.

It was made known at Police Headquarters today that Supt. Byrnes had issued orders putting all the "fly cops" or special duty men in the city back on post.

The order which was sent out from the Superintendent's office Thursday night created consternation among the "fly cops" in various precincts.

In the order covered all the special duty men in plain clothes, except those detailed by the Board.

It has been the custom for every captain to detail several members of his command on special duty in plain clothes besides the regular uniformed men who are so detailed by the commissioners.

Supt. Byrnes has been quietly investigating the matter for some time and discovered that in some precincts as many as five and six patrolmen were doing special duty in plain clothes.

Some precincts had three and four, and in some of the uptown districts there were only two officers out.

Mr. Byrnes looked up the records to see if these men had performed any extraordinary amount of work which would warrant so many men doing their duty in regular plain duty.

The returns show that taking all the precincts together there were about one hundred and twenty-five men on special duty, exclusive of those regularly detailed by the Board.

For so many men there made no good showing. Among the number were also many who were doing nothing but sinecures.

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OUR THEATRES NEXT WEEK.

Opening of the Casino as a Concert Hall Monday Night.

A Double Bill of Comic Opera at Palmer's.

The opening of the Casino as a concert hall will occur Monday night. Great preparations are made and great things are expected. The programme will be a very long one, and the entertainment will last from 8 o'clock until midnight. Two hours will be devoted to the musical portion of the evening.

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